

UNITED STATES GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

Adopted name Langley

APPROVED

Thing named and location peak (Mount Langley) altitude 14,042 feet, on east boundary of Sequoia National Park and summit of the Sierra Nevada, Inyo and Tulare Counties, California, near lat. $36^{\circ}31'36''N$, long. $118^{\circ}14'20''W$. (Not Corcoran Mountain)

Names Langley Authorities

Name improperly shown on U.S. Geol. Survey Mt Whitney quadrangle, 1907 and later reprinted.

Memorandum: The Board's decision, for this mountain rendered Feb. 2, 1891, is "Corcoran" and was made, first, to settle misunderstandings; second, to perpetuate the name given to the mountain by Albert Bierstadt, the celebrated landscape painter; and, third, to honor one of the National Capital's greatest local usage philanthropists and lovers of fine art. Later the Board in order to locate the mountain beyond further question, amended the original decision by adding the distance and direction of Corcoran Mountain from Mount Whitney, the loftiest summit within the area of the forty-eight States of the Union. This

Submitted by request of National Park Service

Recommendation of Executive Committee

Date November 2, 1932This card prepared by Frank Bond*(over)*
Liangley, Mount*Approved by J.W. 33**Dec 1932**Board 6-7-33**Dec 1932*

purposeful decision, for some undiscoverable reason, was ignored when, in 1907, sixteen years later, the Mt. Whitney quadrangle was published showing the work done by the topographers in that region in 1905. Subsequent editions were not corrected, but the Chairman recalls that after the publication of the Mt. Whitney quad. the Board was asked to revoke its Corcoran Mountain decision in favor of the misnomer, Mt. Langley. The request was unfavorably received but "Mt. Langley" continues to appear on the quad. It should be borne in mind that the Wheeler surveys, and his report in 1889, called the mountain "Mount Corcoran", two years before the Board decision. The reasons which lie at the foundation of the effort, now covering more than forty years, to ignore Corcoran Mountain and substitute Mt. Langley appear to be undiscoverable. The case is not unlike that of Mt. Rainier except that the underlying cause of the persistent campaign for Tacoma is well understood.

By letter dated Nov. 2, 1931, the Chairman was requested to restore the name Mount Langley "on behalf of the people who visit the mountains" and to that plea is added "the practice of the people of Owens Valley" who call the mountain Langley. It is believed that neither the settlers in Owens Valley nor the people who visit the mountains would find it impossible to follow the Board decision if given a chance.

The aid of the National Park Service toward substituting Langley for Corcoran is now invoked and ^{that Service} suggests that the matter again come before the Board. If the decision of 1891 is revoked the approval of this card will establish Mt. Langley; and in that event the Chairman requests that the memory of Corcoran be not dishonored by abandonment but given to another nearby peak located on the National Park boundary and common county line. A new Corcoran Mountain card is submitted for consideration. The altitude of this peak is 13,733 feet, only. There are no unnamed peaks in California whose altitude is 14,000 feet, or more.